Ghaziabad-New Delhi route, resulting in increase of thousands of passengers;

(b) whether one new train between Meerut-New Delhi *via* Tilak Bridge was announced in the DRUCC meeting recently, held by the Railway authorities;

(c) if so, by when the aforesaid train is likely to be started to mitigate the sufferings of commuters, travelling between Ghaziabad and New Delhi; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Two new stations have been .added on Ghaziabad-New Delhi route. On an average, during 2001-02, 794 passengers were booked per day from these two stations.

(b) to (d) It is proposed to introduce a Passenger train between Delhi and Meerut during 2002-03, as announced in the Railway Budget 2002-03.

Position of Shatabdi and Rajdhani Trains

4764. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shatabdi and Rajdhani Trains are in Doldrums, as reported in Delhi Mid-Day dated the 20th February, 2002; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken to improve the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) As compared to the previous year, Rajdhani Express trains have shown overall increase in the number of passengers booked and the earnings. The Shatabdi Express trains have shown slight decline in the number of passengers booked as well as earnings.

(b) The performance of the Rajdhani and Shatabdi Express trains is closely monitored. Improvements through waiting list analysis and sector wise analysis are done to assess the demand, changes

in composition, improvements in speed, timings, design of coaches, provision of additional on-board facilities and improvements in passenger amenities at stations are continuously made. Wide publicity through different media is also made to improve the patronization. Steps to improve patronization of trains are a continuous process.

Railway Archives

4765. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Railway Archives, compressing 150 years of history of Indian Railway, in four rooms, has been set up of late; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Collection of Railway documents such as books, reports, files, photographs, slides, pamphlets, magazines, drawings pertaining to historical aspects of Railways and making these available for reference to researchers and the visitors at the National Rail Museum.

Development of Diesel Rail Engine

4766. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have developed a 4000—hp diesel engine built in India under license from General Motors;

(b) if so, whether this new engine would be capable of pulling passenger trains at 160 km. per hour;

(c) whether these engine were earlier imported in 1999;

(d) if so, the cost of the imported engine; and

(e) the cost of the engine that has been developed in India?